

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 01019 011551Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 SSO-00 H-01 SS-15 INR-07
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PRS-01 /044 W
-----116409 011555Z /46
O R 011530Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6102
INFO WHITE HOUSE
DEA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 1019

DEPT FOR ARA AND S/NM

WHITE HOUSE FOR BOURNE

DEA FOR BENSINGER

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, CO
SUBJ: LEAK OF NARCOTICS INFORMATION

REF: BOGOTA 960 AND 940

1. COLOMBIAN PRESIDENCY ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE YESTERDAY WHICH CONTAINED A FULL SPANISH TRANSLATION OF THAT PORTION OF THE CODEL WOLFF REPORT DEALING WITH COLOMBIA. THE COMMUNIQUE STATED THAT A COPY OF THIS REPORT HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO THE PRESIDENT BY AMBASSADOR ASENCIO. THE COMMUNIQUE REFERRED TO RECENT PRESS ARTICLES ABOUT THE LE MONDE REPORT ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND CORRUPTION AND ATTRIBUTED THESE TO THE CONGRESSIONAL REPORT. IN REPRODUCING THE REPORT THE PRESIDENCY COMMENTED THAT IT CONTAINS STATISTICS AND IDEAS THAT ARE NOT SHARED BY COLOMBIAN AUTHORITIES. THE COMMUNIQUE ADDED THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE CONCLUSIONS IN THE CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENT WERE DERIVED FROM VERBAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND
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VARIOUS PERSONALITIES DURING THEIR STAY IN COLOMBIA.

2. THE PRESIDENCY'S COMMUNIQUE RECEIVED FRONT PAGE HEADLINES IN EL TIEMPO AND ALSO WAS PROMINENTLY FEATURED IN OTHER PAPERS TODAY.

3. COMMENT: IN CHOOSING THIS MANNER OF REACTING TO THE

ARTICLES IN LE MONDE AND OTHER PAPERS ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AND CORRUPTION IN COLOMBIA, PRESIDENT LOPEZ HAS FOLLOWED A COURSE OF ACTION WHICH MINIMIZES POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. AT THE SAME TIME IT HAS FOR LOPEZ THE ADVANTAGE OF AVOIDING, BY FINESSE, ANY DIRECT COMMENT ON SPECIFIC CHARGES CARRIED IN THE PRESS AGAINST THE TWO COLOMBIAN CABINET MINISTERS.

4. YESTERDAY AT LEAST ONE MAJOR BOGOTA DAILY CARRIED AN ACCOUNT OF CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S INTERVIEW ON THE JAN 30 ABC/TV PROGRAM "GOOD MORNING AMERICA". THE LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNT INCLUDED WOLFF'S REFERENCE TO A COUNTRY IN WHICH THE NEPHEW OF A LEADING PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE IS A LEADING NARCOTICS TRAFFICKER. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE NONE OF THE LOCAL PRESS ACCOUNTS INCLUDED WOLFF'S SPECIFIC IDENTIFICATION OF COLOMBIA AS THAT COUNTRY, HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE EASY FOR LOCAL READERS TO INFER FROM THE ARTICLE THAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT THIS COUNTRY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, CORRUPTION, COMMUNIQUES, NEWS LEAKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802108/aaaadnkg.tel
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SAS ID: 3447634
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEAK OF NARCOTICS INFORMATION
TAGS: SNAR, SOPN, CO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
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